## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

- 1. (Canceled).
- 2. (Currently Amended) A silicon-containing polymer according to claim 1

  comprising the structure represented by formula 1 below as a main structural unit

$$(SiO_{4/2})_{k} (O_{1/2} Si - R^{2} - COOH)_{1} (O_{1/2} Si - R^{2} - COOR^{3})_{m} (O_{1/2} X)_{n}$$

$$\downarrow R^{1}$$

$$\downarrow R^{1}$$

$$\downarrow R^{1}$$

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where R<sup>1</sup> represents a monovalent organic group, R<sup>2</sup> represents a direct bond or a divalent organic group, R<sup>3</sup> represents a monovalent organic group or an organosilyl group, any of which groups may be of different types, X represents hydrogen, a monovalent organic group or an organosilyl group, which groups may be of different types, k and I are positive integers, m and n are 0 or positive integers, and these subscripts satisfy the following relationship

$$0 < \frac{1}{1+m+n} \le 0.8$$
  $0 \le \frac{m}{1+m} < 0.2$ 

wherein at least some of the X groups are triorganosilyl groups.

- 3. (Original) A silicon-containing polymer according to claim 2, wherein said triorganosilyl groups include photosensitive crosslinkable groups.
- 4. (Currently Amended) A silicon-containing polymer represented by formula 2 below, wherein said photosensitive crosslinkable group is chloromethylphenylethyl

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where R<sup>1</sup> represents a monovalent organic group,

R<sup>2</sup> represents a direct bond or a divalent organic group,

R<sup>3</sup> represents a monovalent organic group or an organosilyl group, any of which groups may be of different types,

X represents hydrogen, a monovalent organic group or an organosilyl group, which groups may be of different types, wherein at least some of the X groups are triorganosilyl groups containing a photosensitive crosslinkable group and wherein the photosensitive crosslinkable group is chloromethylphenylethyl,

 $R^4$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  each independently represent a monovalent organic group, at least one of  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  being which is a monovalent organic group containing including chloromethylphenylethyl, wherein  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  may be one or more different types of organic groups,

k, I and o are positive integers,

m and n are 0 or positive integers, and

these subscripts satisfy the following relationships:

$$0 < \frac{0}{1 + m + n + 0} \le 0.8$$

$$0 < \frac{1}{1+m+n} \le 0.8$$
  $0 \le \frac{m}{1+m} < 0.2$ 

5. (Currently Amended) A silicon-containing polymer comprising the structure represented by formula 3 below as a main structural unit

$$(SiO_{4/2})_k (O_{1/2} \overset{R^1}{\underset{R^1}{\text{Si}}} - R^2 - COOH)_1 \quad (O_{1/2}X)_n \quad (O_{1/2} \overset{R^1}{\underset{R^1}{\text{Si}}} - R^2 - COOR^7)_p \quad (O_{1/2} \overset{R^1}{\underset{R^1}{\text{Si}}} - R^2 - COOR^8)_q$$

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where R<sup>1</sup> represents a monovalent organic group, R<sup>2</sup> represents a direct bond or a divalent organic group, R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> each independently represent a monovalent organic group or an organosilyl group, any of which groups may be of different types, X represents hydrogen, a monovalent organic group or an organosilyl group, which groups may be of different types, k and q are positive integers, I, n, and p are 0 or positive integers, and these subscripts satisfy the following relationship

$$0 \le \frac{1}{1+n+p+q} < 0. \quad 5 \qquad 0. \quad 1 < \frac{q}{1+n+p+q} \le 0. \quad 8$$

- 6. (Original) A silicon-containing polymer according to claim 5, wherein at least some of the X groups are triorganosilyl groups.
- 7. (Original) A silicon containing polymer according to claim 5, wherein R<sup>8</sup> is a functional group that is eliminated by an acid catalyst.
- 8. (Presently Amended) A coplymer according to any one of claims [[1]] 2 to 7, where  $R^2$  is  $-(Ch_2)_{a^-}$  - $(Ch_2)_{a^-}$  and a is an integer of 1-10.
  - 9 17 (Cancelled).
- 18. (New) A silicon-containing polymer comprising the structure represented by formula 1 below as a main structural unit

$$(SiO_{4/2})_{k} (O_{1/2} Si - R^{2} - COOH)_{1} (O_{1/2} Si - R^{2} - COOR^{3})_{m} (O_{1/2} X)_{n}$$

1

where  $R^1$  represents a monovalent organic group,  $R^2$  represents a direct bond or a divalent organic group,  $R^3$  represents a monovalent organic group or an organosilyl group, any of which groups may be of different types, X represents hydrogen, a monovalent organic group or an organosilyl group, which groups may be of different types, k and I are positive integers, m is a positive integer, and n is 0 or a positive integer, and these subscripts satisfy the following relationship:  $0 < I/(I+m+n) \le 0.8$  and 0 < m/(I+m) < 0.2.

19. (New) A silicon-containing polymer according to claim 18, wherein at least some of the X groups are triorganosilyl groups.

- 20. (New) A silicon-containing polymer according to claim 19, wherein said triorganosilyl groups include photosensitive crosslinkable groups.
- 21. (New) A coplymer according to any one of claims 18 to 20, where  $R^2$  is -(Ch<sub>2</sub>)<sub>a</sub>- and a is an integer of 1-10.